

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of: Filho and Albuquerque

Application No. 10/767,539

Filed: January 29, 2004

Confirmation No. 5352

For: ASSEMBLY AND METHOD FOR
STIFFENING A FLEXIBLE PIPE

Examiner: Patrick F. Brinson

Art Unit: 3754

Attorney Reference No. 7156-70278-01

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I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Attorney or Agent
for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed July 19, 2005

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Enclosed for filing in the application referenced above are the following:

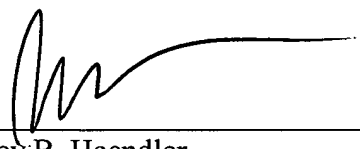
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
 - ☒ Form 1449 and references cited thereon
 - ☒ IDS Fee of \$180.00
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Respectfully submitted,

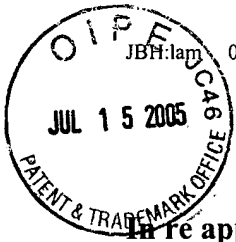
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By


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cc: Docketing



JBH:lam 07/13/05 7156-70278-01 404456 WL-03-008

PATENT

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for Applicant(s) _____

Date Mailed July 13, 2005

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language documents. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent. This Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is being mailed before Applicants received a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the referenced application.

Copies of United States patents and United States published patent applications do not have to be provided to the Patent Office (37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(ii)). Copies of unpublished U.S. applications do not have to be provided, as long as the application is available on PAIR, as this requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii) has been waived by the United States Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice on October 19, 2004 (1287 OG 163). Applicants will provide copies of such patents or applications upon request.

07/18/2005 HVUONG1 00000010 10767539

01 FC:1806

180.00 DP

Submitted herewith is a check for \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for filing this IDS in compliance with 1.97(c).

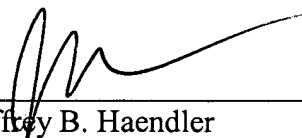
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The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

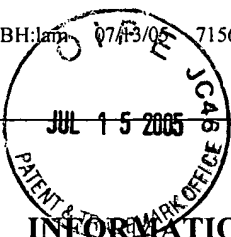
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Attorney Docket Number	7156-70278-01
Application Number	10/767,539
Filing Date	January 29, 2004
First Named Inventor	Filho
Art Unit	3752
Examiner Name	Patrick F. Brinson

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Copies of U.S. Patent documents do not need to be provided, unless requested by the Patent and Trademark Office. For patents, provide the patent number and the issue date. For published U.S. applications, provide the publication number and the publication date. For unpublished pending patent applications, provide the application number and the filing date.

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Number	Publication Date	Name of Applicant or Patentee
		5,526,846	06/18/1996	Maloberti et al.
		6,220,303	4/24/2001	Secher Philippe et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Country	Number	Publication Date	Name of Applicant or Patentee
		Europe	EP 0911482	04/28/1999	Deep Oil Technology, Incorporated

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	
		"Bend Stiffener Connector System," MIB International Ltd. website http://www.mibitaliana.it/bend.html , 2 pages (publication date unknown).
		"OrcaBend-Bend Stiffener Optimisation Software," Orcina Limited, 4 pages (publication date unknown).
		PCT International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/GB2005/000264.

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* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through cite if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.